



Visually-impaired Community Worker graduate Betty Davidson and guide dog Samantha (with program teacher Bill Fallis) both got diplomas at convocation in June.

Class canine gets doggie diploma

Like most of the people in her George Brown Community Worker class, Samantha would sit quietly through discussions and lectures -- but occasionally she'd get bored.

"She'd groan and yawn loudly," recalls classmate and companion Betty Davidson.

Samantha is a black Labrador who spent the last two years guiding Davidson, who is visually-impaired, to and from classes at St. James.

When Davidson was awarded her diploma at convocation in June -- and given the Dean's Award for her achievements -- Samantha was given a special diploma as well.

As thousands of people in University of Toronto's Convocation Hall applauded, Samantha and Davidson -- who is the first visually-impaired student to graduate from the Community Services program -- were presented with their honours.

"I was embarrassed," says Davidson. "For 10 minutes they wouldn't stop clapping."

Samantha's diploma, signed by President Doug Light and College Registrar Dr. Garry Watson, says she "assisted her owner in fulfilling the requirements of the Community Worker program."

The college canine got to know the layout of St. James very quickly, says Davidson.

Samantha even did her bit to help out on Davidson's two work placements at the Ralph Thornton Community Centre on Queen Street East.

Part of her work at the Centre involved visiting area schools to tell students about blindness and visual impairment and show them how Samantha worked.

It's hard for many people to resist petting guide dogs, but it distracts them, she says.

While Samantha solves a lot of everyday problems for Davidson, she can't help her find a job.

"There's still a certain amount of discrimination," she says.

New College policy: Smokers will puff in closed lounges

Starting in September, smokers at George Brown will have to go into special lounges to enjoy their cigarettes, pipes and cigars -- no ifs, ands, or butts.

This new College policy, passed by the Board of Governors in June, will clear the air of smoke in hallways, offices, cafeterias and the rest of the College.

Smoking won't be tolerated outside of the designated smoking lounges -- which are all now separately ventilated to the outside to eliminate second-hand smoke in main building ventilation systems.

Board member David Pratley, who chaired the committee that developed the smoking policy, says the policy results in a win-win situation: It clears the air for people who don't want to breathe smoke, and gives smokers a place to go.

Pratley's view is that the policy is another step in the direction of a completely smoke-free College - and serves as notice to staff and students.

"They have to be prepared that down the road they won't be able to smoke."

Students will find that many employers will not tolerate smoking at all, he says.

The Board's smoking committee, which included staff and student representatives, smokers and non-smokers, developed the policy after surveying staff and students on the issue and reviewing other colleges' policies and legislation.

The surveys found that less than 38 per cent of students, and less than 35 per cent of staff, smoked, and indicated support for a policy that would restrict smoking to separately ventilated areas.

One key to the policy's success at George Brown is the availability of smoking lounges.

The Board decided in June to spend up to \$100,000 this summer to create six new designated smoking lounges to bring the College-wide total to 16 (a list appears on page 2), improve signage and launch an information campaign aimed at both staff and students.

A large portion of that money was used to create a separate smoking lounge in the student cafeteria at Casa Loma. Other new
Continued on page 2.

Colleges' image is crucial for enrolment, future stability

At this moment, hundreds of successful applicants to our post-secondary programs are trying to decide if they should enrol at George Brown this fall. While most will come here, some will be lured away by job opportunities or choose to go to another college. Every person in this group, however, will spend some time thinking about George Brown and what it offers.

What potential students think about our college, and about colleges in general, is crucial for both our enrolment this fall and our long term stability as an institution. The more we know about the way people think about us, the better we can meet their needs with timely and appropriate information.

George Brown was one of several Metro area colleges that recently commissioned a study of the opinions about college held by several important groups -- secondary school students, young working people, and graduates.

The study, which included surveys and directed group discussions, came up with some important findings. These included:

- Working people had a more sympathetic and perhaps more realistic idea of the educational role of colleges. Secondary school students were more concerned with the perceived lower "status" of going to a college rather than a university.



- Study respondents said that potential salary levels and career opportunities open to them after graduation were the most important considerations in choosing to go to college.
- Secondary school students who found college appealing said they liked it because of work experience in their programs, being able to live at home while going to college, and the reputation of college among employers.
- George Brown fared well when secondary school students were asked to identify particular colleges.

General awareness of George Brown was third highest (after Seneca and Humber) among eight area colleges, and more people had visited George Brown than any other college except Seneca. More importantly, we were also the second highest (after Seneca) when students were asked which college they were considering attending.

This good news, however, must be balanced with the study's conclusion that many people don't appreciate the role colleges play in launching thousands into challenging, upwardly mobile, and lucrative careers.

The study also concludes that colleges should fine tune their communications to meet the different needs of secondary school students and working people.

Communications, in this case, is not restricted to brochures and videos. It is the total sum of all our contacts with both students and the general public -- who are all potential students. Every time we communicate we, perhaps unknowingly, create an image for George Brown.

The study suggests that colleges lay claim to a special form of prestige in the minds of the public. "It has more to do with success in the real world rather than advancements in science or scholarship," the study says. "It has to do with helping people make the most of their lives."

As we enter a new academic year, it's worth remembering that our ability to help people improve their lives is, ultimately, the foundation of both our public image and institutional stability.

D. E. Light

Smoking policy

Continued from page 1.

smoking lounges required ventilation systems and some new construction.

For the first time, George Brown's smoking policy also has explicit procedures for implementation, including disciplinary

measures for staff or students who repeatedly violate it.

Enforcing the policy in classrooms and other teaching areas is the responsibility of teachers and, ultimately, their department heads. Chairpersons and managers must enforce the policy in their areas, while Campus Managers are responsible for enforcing the policy in common areas of the

College such as entrances, hallways and washrooms.

Staff or students who repeatedly violate the policy will be given verbal and then written warnings. The College can ultimately suspend or terminate staff or students who refuse to stop smoking in non-designated areas.

The College is also going to help both staff and students kick the habit.

George Brown's Human Resources Department will offer a smoking cessation program for staff -- and refund the cost for employees hired before Sept. 1, 1989 if they have not smoked for six months after the end of the program.

Student Services counsellors will refer students to smoking cessation programs.

New signs indicating the policy and the location of smoking lounges are being put up at all campuses, and all staff and students will get a brochure outlining the policy and its implementation.

A standing staff and student committee, chaired by Senior Vice-President Administration Jim Turner, has been established to monitor implementation of the policy this fall. Suggestions or concerns about the policy should be made to the committee through Turner at 500 MacPherson.

Smoking lounges

Location	Room(s)
Casa Loma	
500 MacPherson	B109
146 Kendal	E214A
160 Kendal	C212 (west student lounge)
	South section of cafeteria
	C426(staff lounge)
	C556
1 Dartnell	D206
37 Dartnell	A310

Location	Room(s)
Kensington	3B06A, 3B06B
Nightingale	B-1, 540
St. James	
200 King St. E.	B-158 (staff lounge, and cafeteria smoking section)
	770
530 King St. E.	Green Room
300 Adelaide St. E.	253
	Plumer's (designated area)

Events

Sept. 1 - College closes at 3:30 p.m. for Labour Day weekend.

Sept. 4 - Labour Day. College closed.

Sept. 8-9 - Part-Time Teacher Training Program: *Instructing The Adult*. Casa Loma Campus, Room B-206, begins at 2:00 p.m. For further information and registration details call Tim Klassen (944-4660). Sponsored by the Human Resources Department.

Sept. 12 - Board of Governors meeting, 5 p.m., 500 MacPherson Boardroom.

Sept. 18 - Affirmative Action Advisory Committee meeting, 8:30 a.m., Casa Loma, Room C318. All welcome. Call June Kingshott (944-4621) for information.

Sept. 26 - Apple MacFest. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. St. James Atrium. Displays and demonstrations of Apple MacIntosh computers and software. Seminars on graphics, business and engineering applications. Computers on sale at 35 per cent off for students and staff. Call Jill Foran (867-2365) for information.

Oct. 4 - The first of a series of Support Staff Brown Bag Lunches: *Special Needs Students*, Casa Loma, Room B-206, noon to 1:30 p.m. Information and registration material will be sent to all support staff. Sponsored by the Human Resources Department.

Oct. 5 - *Multicultural and Anti-racist Training Session* for all staff, Casa Loma, Room C-318, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. For more information and details call Tim Klassen, (944-4660). Sponsored by the Human Resources Department.

Oct. 13, 14 - Part-Time Teacher Training: *Instructing The Adult*. Casa Loma Campus, Room C-318, 2:00 p.m. For further information and registration details call Tim Klassen (944-4660).

Oct. 19 - *Managing Stress Workshop* for Support Staff, Casa Loma, Room C-337, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Information and registration material will be sent to all support staff. Sponsored by the Human Resources Department.

Oct. 25 - Support Staff Brown Bag Session: *Learn More About the Union*. Casa Loma, Room C-318, noon to 1:30 p.m. Information and registration material will be sent to all support staff.



George Brown court reporting instructor Valerie Waites poised to take down the verbal flurry of fast-talking lawyer David Robinson in a College-sponsored contest in June.

Fast talking contest shows off College's new court reporting computer system

The fastest talker in Toronto isn't a lawyer, a politician, or even a car salesperson -- it's an accounting student.

Paul Anderson, 21, spoke at a scorching 378 words per minute to edge out dozens of challengers in the first College-sponsored Fastest Talker in Toronto competition.

The University of Toronto Commerce student read more than six words a second in the contest organized by School of Business staff in June to raise money for the Daily Bread Food Bank -- and show off its new \$100,000 court reporting equipment.

Anderson's verbal flurry was recorded by George Brown part-time court reporting instructor Valerie Waites, who took down every word using the new computer system.

Anderson, who is from Oakville, says cramming for exams may have improved his reading speed and given him an edge.

"People have always told me I was a fast talker."

Coming second was Toronto's fastest talking lawyer, David Robinson of the venerable law firm McCarthy and McCarthy, who spoke at 342 words a minute.

Donations from spectators and contestants added almost \$250 to Daily Bread Food Bank coffers.

Held at First Canadian Place during lunch hour, the contest was designed to showcase the talents of George Brown College-trained court reporters who, using new advanced computer translation equipment, can take down court testimony at a rate of more than 250 words per minute.

George Brown is the only college east of Alberta that offers training in the increasingly popular court reporting technique.

The computer system does away with time-consuming manual transcription of proceedings from a court reporter's written symbols -- saving both reporters and courts a lot of time.

While court reporting is a rewarding and lucrative career, it seems to remain a mystery to much of the public, says Office Administration Chairperson Pearl Hazen.

Court reporters, many of whom are self-employed, can earn up to \$100,000 a year, she says.

In addition to working as supreme, district, and provincial court reporters, George Brown graduates are employed as freelancers for legal inquiries such as the Dubin and Automobile Insurance Board. They also provide the text for closed captioned television for the deaf.

Names in the News



Photo: Tony Hane

FOND FAREWELL - More than 130 people gathered in early August to bid a fond farewell to Jim Michie (left, with Senior Vice-President Administration Jim Turner). Michie, Dean of the Business and Industry Training Division, had a career with George Brown that spanned more than two decades and included stints as a teacher and campus principal. Plumer's Dining Room was turned into a lavish standup buffet for the event -- with salmon steaks grilled on a patio barbeque. Jim was given a mountain bike by his friends. Continuing Education and Marketing Dean Bob Struwers is the Division's new dean.

Bill Houghton has been appointed Chairperson of the Electrical Technology Department in the Technology Division. He replaces **George Danae**, who has retired. Houghton is the former Co-ordinator of Apprenticeship programs in the Department.

George Brown Hospitality grad **Peter Moutsos** beat competition from across Canada to win the title Cook Apprentice of the Year. Moutsos is currently apprenticing at the Westbury Hotel under Executive Chef **Gunter Gugelmeier**. He wins a \$1,000 scholarship and trip to Singapore with Team Canada for the 1990 World Culinary Competition. The contest was no piece of cake -- competitors were given a mystery basket of food and five hours to make a four-course dinner for four people.

Judy Bertram, Acting Director of the Division of Studies and Skills Development for the Australian State of Queensland, made George Brown's Electronics Department one of her stops on a tour through North America and Western Europe in August. After she goes back down under, Bertram will write a report about how other countries manage skill training. "The issue is the same (everywhere)-- how to get more employers to invest more in training," she says. Queensland, with a population of two million, has 31 colleges.

Colleagues and friends were saddened by the recent death of Nursing Program Co-ordinator **Lynn Buist** after a long illness.

Buist was trained at Toronto General School of Nursing, and taught there from 1970 until 1973 when it was amalgamated into George Brown. She became a curriculum co-ordinator at the College in 1973. Colleagues say Buist was dedicated to education and spent long days to keep things running smoothly. She is survived by her husband Joseph.

A group of George Brown dental assisting students walked away with first prize at a recent Ontario Dental Nurses and Assistants Association convention for their work on a table display titled: *Everything you wanted to know about radiographic quality control -- but were afraid to ask.*

Students **Eva Fortomaris**, **Betty Fourmouzis**, **Pascal Frerichs**, **Christine Gobbato** and **Catherine Hemming** worked with instructors **Kathy Kwasnycia** and **Anita Beardwood**.

The Human Resources Department reports the following staff changes:

New staff include: **Debbie Bright** in the Waterpark Place Daycare Centre, **Michele Delongcamp** in the Finance Department, **Arun Gupta** and **Robert Overall** in the Computer Services Department, **Sbaida Ladak** in the Ontario Skills Development Office, **Christine Larouche** in the French Centre, **Barbara McGibbon** in the Re-direction Through Education program, **Usha Nair** in the Community Services Department at St. James, **Lucy Patterson** in the Queen Street Daycare Centre, **Karin Rose** in the Post-Diploma Nursing Department, **Erica Seaton** in the Fashion District Daycare Centre, and **Catherine Smith**, as Chairperson of the Educational Access Services Department in the Access Division.

Internal transfers include: **Ellen Capano**, who left the Admissions Office at Casa Loma for a position with the Special Needs Department; **Ellen DeBoer**, who left the Placement Office at St. James for a position with the Technology Division; **Dorothy Deaton**, who was transferred from Kensington to St. James in the Health and Safety Department; **Jennifer Hanger**, who went from a position in the Ontario Skills Development Office to one in the Community Services Department at Nightingale; **Elizabeth Hornby**, who joined the School of Business Part-time Studies Office from the Business Administration Department; **Manowite Persaud**, who left the Health Sciences Division for the Access Division at Casa Loma; and **Robert Rocca**, who left Admissions at Casa Loma for a position with the Health Sciences Division.

Name changes include: **Fatima DaSilva**, who is now **Fatima Gata**; **Sudba Papinazath**, who is now **Sudba Valookaran**; and **Claudia Wong**, who is now **Claudia Hogarth**.

Retirements include: **Mahamad Ali** from Educational Resources at Nightingale; **Lynda Dunn** from the Health Sciences Division; **Francis Joy** from the English as a Second Language Department; **Marianna Korman** from the Counselling Department at St. James; **George Lepage** from the English and Liberal Studies Department at St. James; **William Lett**, **Alan Qualie** and **Michael Thomas** from the Technology Division; and **Nicolas Tsatsos** from the School of Business.

Leaving the College are: **Thomas Chassels**, **Leonardo Correia**, **Robert Denny**, **Patricia Green**, **Christine Lui**, **Evelyn Lyn**, **James Martin**, **Lilybeth Salmasan**, **Marie Snyder**, and **Quon Ming**.

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